



Go into all the world
and preach
the Good News
to everyone.



FROM THE PEN OF THE REV. DR. KEN BELLOS INTERIM MINISTER

Baptism and church membership are on my mind as we celebrate with those who have decided to witness to their faith in Jesus Christ through baptism. It is one of the centerpieces of our identity

as Baptists. I always find it moving and meaningful to share this with those who are taking this important step of discipleship on their faith journey.

In our tradition, we practice believers' baptism. That simply means that the person being baptized is capable of confessing his or her faith in Jesus Christ and desires to make a public witness of that confession. Our baptisms are by immersion. The whole person is dipped under the water, symbolizing death to the old way and rising again to new life in Christ. It is a sign of obedience to Jesus' command in Matthew 28 to go make disciples, baptize them, and teach them about God's ways.

I have enjoyed the chance to visit with each person who has come forward as they have shared the story of their faith journey with me.

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Matthew 28 18-20

And Jesus came and said to them,

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”

– RSV

Our Deacons have also had a welcome visit with each person on behalf of the congregation. Everyone in the congregation blesses those being baptized by witnessing their faith commitment and welcoming them in the weeks following as they have contact opportunities. It is one of the ways we express our unity as a congregation.

Baptism is such a compelling event. For many of us, it is a reminder of the commitments we made in our own baptisms. It is also heartening for all of us to welcome another into our faith family. For others, seeing a baptism may prompt us to reflect on our own faith journey and the prospect of taking the next step of baptism, or joining a Bible study group, or some other measure of growth. Please talk to Paula or me, or one of our Deacons, if you need any help with your next steps of faith.

Some of our church programs, like Out of the Cold, are seasonal and have closed for the spring and summer. Thanks to all those who so faithfully provided food, shelter, and care for almost two hundred people each week. And for the summer, Katherine Laundry is initiating a sandwich preparation and distribution program to continue providing nutrition for some on our streets who need help. Watch for the specifics and volunteer to help if you are able.

As summer approaches, we look forward to the excellent guest preachers who will come to our pulpit during July. We are grateful for the inspiration they will bring.

The Annual Assembly of Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec was held at Brock University June 3-6. Delegates and ministry staff from our church represented us there. Rev. Leanne Friesen is our Executive Minister, who gives superb leadership to our Convention. Please remember her in your prayers.

In early July, leaders from around the world will gather as part of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) Annual Gathering. The BWA is a fellowship of Baptist groups from 211 countries. Please pray for them as they meet this summer under the leadership of Rev. Elijah Brown. The Canadian host for the gathering is our own CBM Executive Director, Jennifer Lau. For some of us, the summer season is our time for getting out of the city. For others, we continue to enjoy the streets and activities while remaining in town. Wherever you find yourself, please remember our congregation in your prayers and with your financial support. May God continue to bless you.

Ken Bellous





FROM THE MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE AND DISCIPLESHIP

As summer approaches whether you are going away or making plans to enjoy all the lovely local parks and other venues in our city, summer,

like all the other seasons, is a time to give thanks. No matter the time of year, worship at Yorkminster Park will continue to bless the many who come through our doors.

This is also our third summer offering Prayers in the Park starting July 8th and ending August 12th. Join us in the Meditation Circle at noon for a time of prayer, reflection, hymns and fellowship. It has become a lovely tradition to bring a packed lunch or snack and join together in sharing a meal after our little service of worship. All are welcome.

Starting July 8th in the evenings at 7 pm, Zoom only, a Bible Study, related to the theme of Ordinary Time will take place for 5 weeks. Over the last few years, we have done an in-depth study of the Season of Lent and also of Advent. It is time for Ordinary Time! We will be looking at important dates that take place

during this oft overlooked season, such as the Birth of John the Baptist and Christ the King Sunday, the final Sunday of Ordinary Time.

But alongside these important dates in the church calendar, this season is a time when we can reflect on how God meets us in our day-to-day lives, how in this season we call Ordinary, the Holy Spirit continues to be present with us. There will be more information in the calendar in the coming weeks. I look forward to seeing you at our summer study.

I would also like to thank the many of you who were so very kind to me with your congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of my graduation at Acadia Divinity College, Acadia University, with a Master of Arts in Theology. Your cards and notes on our social media pages touched my heart. I felt both greatly encouraged and loved and I return that love to you from the depths of my heart.

Acadia Divinity honours their graduands in the most delightful way. From planning a dinner for all of us and our loved ones, to sharing in worship at a Commissioning Service, even before graduation day, all of us students felt the genuinely celebratory joy of the faculty in all our accomplishments. It was a blessing to finally meet the faculty in person, those

The Rev. Barbara Fuller, The Rev. Paula Willis, Dr. Carol Anne Janzen (Acadia Divinity)

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MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE AND DISCIPLESHIP (cont.)



I had never met face-to-face, and also old and beloved friends of our church: Anna Robbins, current President and Dean of Acadia Divinity, and Harry Gardner who served long years in the same role.

One of the highlights of my time in Nova Scotia was being gifted with a quilt by the "Ladies of W.M.S – Billtown Baptist Church.

My particular quilt was stitched in April of 2023. All of the women who graduated were blessed

with quilts from women in the many surrounding churches. The scripture verse that accompanies my quilt is "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." What lovely encouragement and as I continue to serve – I will hold these verses in my heart. It was deeply rewarding to study at Acadia.

Pastoral needs do not take a rest in summer. Please continue to reach out to me at pwillis@yorkminsterpark.com or you can also telephone me at 416-922-1240. God bless you this summer with peace and joy and good health.

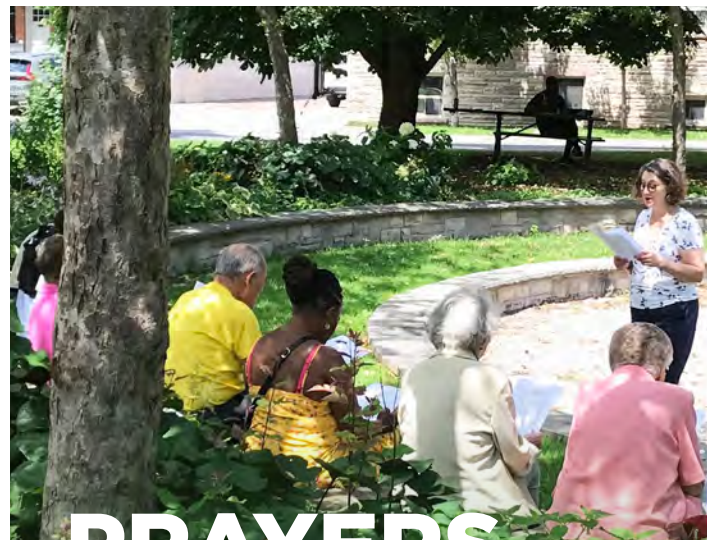
The Rev. Paula Willis

ORDINARY TIME IS ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY.

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY
Wednesdays, July 8 – August
5 7:00pm | Online Only

Join us for a 5-week study inspired by Paula Gooder's *Everyday God: The Spirit of the Ordinary* as we discover the sacred in everyday life.

REGISTER HERE
or email pwillis@yorkminsterpark.com



PRAYERS IN THE PARK

WEDNESDAYS AT NOON
Meditation Circle
July 8th - August 12th

Bring a packed lunch and stay for fellowship!

In the event of rain, we will meet in the Friendship Room.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Lessons of Grace and Faith

At the age of sixteen, my father died of a massive heart attack in my arms. That night would forever change the trajectory of my life. I had hoped to become a physician, but my father was the sole breadwinner and, after his death, that responsibility fell onto me. Working three jobs, running a house, caring for my mother, and trying to finish high school made that dream a distant memory.

I needed a well-paying job fast! Becoming a paramedic seemed like the next best thing. The odds were stacked against me, as there were only a handful of women in that profession at the time. It was a job that required an incredible amount of physical, mental, and emotional strength. Although it was a career I never wanted, it became everything I could have ever hoped for.

As an Advanced Care Paramedic, I became the eyes, ears, and hands of a physician. I would bring the emergency room into every corner of the city to which I was called. Many people comment on the work that is required of a paramedic: the things we have to do, see, hear, smell, and feel are things that no person should ever have to experience in a lifetime.

How did I survive a career like this? I knew what it was like to feel completely helpless, not knowing what to do for my father, and I knew what it was like to sit in that dark place of grief after his death. It was because of this that I swore that not only would I never not know what to do again, but it became my mission to save someone else's father in a way I was unable to do for my own. In my career, I have brought new lives into this world, I have witnessed lives leave this world, and I have fought with fierce determination to resuscitate someone when life has slipped away.

I didn't just survive; I thrived by pushing my mind and my body to the limit – working against time when seconds meant life or death. I learned so many lessons about grace and faith, and the biggest one of

all was that God was always at the wheel. I would pray before every shift that God would place me where He needed His love to be shown. In those times when I couldn't save someone's life, I would simply "be" with those left behind and do what I could for them. In those moments, I tried to show them God's love – through my touch, words, and actions – because I knew what it was like to sit in that darkness.

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CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE: A JOURNEY OF FAITH (cont.)

My passion to share my skills as an Advanced Care Paramedic, along with the blessings I am entitled to as a female in Canada, brought me into the world of medical missions. To date, I have completed four mission trips. Two of them were to the DR Congo (Buina Mission Hospital), and my last two mission trips were to Zambia (Chitokoloki Mission Hospital).

When I head out on these missions, I never know what to expect from one moment to the next. This year, during my first shift in Chitokoloki, I was asked to go out on the ambulance to assist a midwife on a call. Other days I might be asked to assist with a surgery, manage an airway during an operation, care for a newborn, spend time comforting a young woman dying of AIDS, change wound bandages, play with children, or reorganize a storage closet.

I had the opportunity to spend a twelve-hour day with a long-term missionary/retired nurse visiting villages outside of the catchment of Chitokoloki. It was my job to walk through the bush to visit the patients, take their vitals, and give them their assigned medication. It was a joy to meet these people and greet the curious children who would come out of every corner to see the “new person.” Although I couldn’t speak their language, I knew that a simple smile and wave was a universal language to opening the doors of communication. Children would come to me freely, seeking an opportunity to look at my blood pressure cuff and stethoscope, touch my hair, or gently stroke my arm, curious to explore our differences.

The medicine provided on this day was just a minor part of the mission. We were also taxi drivers, merchants, traders, bankers, post offices, couriers, and teachers. This mission allows various communities to access medical care that they might not otherwise have, along with opportunities for trade and transportation. Without this support, access to these services, supplies, and assistance could require up to one week of walking through the bush.

Each mission has been a very different experience, yet I go away from each of these places having taken far more than I could have ever hoped to give. I leave humbled by all of the experiences I have been a part of. Blessed by all of the people who have crossed my path and changed me in ways I could never hope to describe.

It makes me grateful for the things I often take for granted, and it puts my first-world problems into perspective. It has also allowed me to see how everything in my life has not only prepared me but also has led me to this place and has made me the woman I am today.

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying
“Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

- Isaiah 6:8

Siobhan Carlin

Your support for Churches on-the-Hill Food Bank makes a real difference.



With rising food costs the Foodbank is serving record numbers of clients. In order to ensure that the Foodbank can continue in future years we need the financial support of the community.

Visit www.cothfoodbank.ca for more info or to donate.

The Food of the Month for JULY is

FAMILY SIZED DRY PASTA (900 grams)



MISSIONS UPDATE



Churches-On-the Hill Community Information Centre helps food bank users beyond food

Get us above the poverty line and we will be able to take care of ourselves. We would be more able to help with the food bank rather than consuming from the food bank.”

Food bank user cited in 2025 report

When is a food bank more than a food bank? Yorkminster Park food bank volunteers know.

YP is a member of the Churches-On-The-Hill (COTH) Food bank. Along with meeting increasing demands for food from hundreds of clients,* COTH operates a Community Information Centre (CIC). This vital service registers new clients. That is just the beginning. Then it helps clients meet key non-food needs. These include:

- 1 Legal assistance to appeal a denied claim for benefits such as disability
- 2 **Referral support for:** housing assistance, clothing and furniture needs, medical and dental services, other meal programs (e.g. breakfast programs in area churches), education and training, employment services

The Overall Need in Toronto

According to the Daily Bread Food Bank 2025 report

Food bank visits in Toronto reached an all-time high of **4.1 million in 2025** – more than half a million higher than the year before, and a **340%** increase since 2019.

The hunger crisis is deepening. What was once a short-term emergency has become a long-term reality, as more people rely on food banks more frequently and for longer periods of time.



*|Churches on the Hill (COTH) Food Bank in Toronto has experienced a 50% increase in clients since March 2020, forcing them to double their food budget to meet rising demand.

Emergency Status and Responses:

Toronto City Council formally declared a food insecurity emergency in early 2025 to address this crisis.

Recommendations:

- 1 **Increased Income Support:** Enhancing social assistance programs like Ontario Works (OW) and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).
- 2 **Affordable Housing:** Investing in non-market and supportive housing to alleviate the high cost of rent.
- 3 **Wage Action:** Ensuring access to stable, decent-paying jobs.

HELP SHAPE OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

Yorkminster Park Baptist Church is launching a listening process to better understand how we serve our church family and our local community.

We invite you to share your thoughts through our Community Engagement and Mission Survey.

Community Engagement and Mission Survey

We want to hear how “community engagement” and “mission” look and feel to you. Your insights are incredibly valuable and will help leadership understand our strengths, identify new opportunities to serve, and set our big priorities for the future.

How to Participate: You can complete the assessment either online or on paper.

Online: to take the survey digitally visit:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ypbcsurvey>

Scan the QR code to take the survey online



Paper If you prefer a physical copy, you can pick one up at any of these locations:

Church Office
(during regular office hours)

The Narthex
(before or after Sunday services)

YP Centre Hall Table

Time Commitment:

Standard Survey: Around 20 minutes to complete.

In-Depth Reflection: Up to 30–35 minutes if you choose to complete the optional, detailed reflection sections for specific ministries you volunteer with.

Important Dates & Support

Deadline: The survey will remain live online and available in print until the second Sunday in August (August 9th).

Need Help? If you have any questions, concerns accessing the survey, or experience any technical issues, please contact the church office by phone or email.

A Note of Gratitude

Thank you so much for sharing your heart, your insights, and your time with us! We know how incredibly useful these responses will be as we navigate this season of transition and look ahead to where God is leading our congregation. Your voice matters, and we are excited to see how the results will shape our collective future.

With gratitude,

The Yorkminster Park Baptist Church Ministry Team

DORCAS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Celebrating 105 years of knitting

The Dorcas Group is very excited this year to be celebrating its 105th anniversary.

Our members are a dynamic group of ladies who meet every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. All are invited to join us – the only skill required is a willingness to learn to knit, crochet, or trim postage stamps for the Canadian Bible Society, which in turn sells the stamps to purchase Bibles.

We joined the Needlework Guild of Canada (NGC), Toronto Branch in 1927, one of the first groups to work under the collective of the NGC. Every November, on Distribution Day, the handmade and purchased articles from the numerous groups of the Toronto Chapter are accumulated and distributed to 22 different GTA charities. Last year, the Dorcas Group donated 223 handmade articles. Some of the charities that receive these items are Yonge Street Mission, Native Family Services, Sistering, and New Circles.

Beyond our work with the Needlework Guild, we also mailed two large boxes of knitted items to the Bethlehem Aboriginal Reserve in Winnipeg.

We fund all of our activities ourselves, purchasing our own yarn and making generous financial contributions. We knit with purpose, friendship, and plenty of laughter – occasionally dropping a stitch or two before one of our expert knitters comes to the rescue! One of our members has faithfully knitted with Dorcas for more than 30 years.

If you're looking for a meaningful way to serve, enjoy fellowship, or learn a new skill, we invite you to join us on Tuesday mornings. There is always room for another pair of hands and another friend around the table.



YPBC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



It's a season of celebration! In 2026, Canadian Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec (CBWOQ) will be celebrating the legacy of 150 years of women transforming the world by sharing and demonstrating the love of Christ.

In January of this anniversary year, in keeping with an unremitting commitment to their mission, CBWOQ introduced the **She Matters**, a giving and learning movement in partnership with **Canadian Baptist Ministries (CBM)**'s **She Matters** movement, through which women and churches are invited to support mission work that serves women and girls locally and globally across six key areas of impact: justice, leadership, education, economics, health, and Indigenous priorities.

We take joy in knowing that it is Yorkminster Park women like Maud Matthews, Alfreda Hall, and Dorothy Neal who played significant roles in shaping the mission and growth of what today is being honoured as CBWOQ.

In this season of celebration, we are also privileged to host the **Baptist World Alliance (BWA)**'s **annual gathering** in Toronto from **July 6–10, 2026**, in partnership with CBM and Tyndale University and College. The event's theme is "The Table of Christ: One Gospel, Many People."

The BWA includes a Women's Ministry department that thrives as BWA-Women and embraces the Baptist Women of North America (BWNA), which exists to empower women to live out kingdom life, with a specific focus on supporting and serving the vulnerable.



It is fitting to highlight the legacy of Dorothy Neal who, along with her husband, Ralph, was a member of Yorkminster Park and an exemplary leader and mentor among Baptist women through both CBWOQ and what

then was BWA's North American Baptist Women's Union (NABWU), now BWNA. In late 2016, YPBC Women's Ministries inaugurated The Dorothy Neal New Initiatives Fund in partnership with CBWOQ.

It was our desire to honour Dorothy and to encourage Baptist women in ministry and leadership as they live out their faith. Supporting new mission initiatives that serve vulnerable women, children, and youth at risk is a key element of the Canadian Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec's vision of empowering women for ministry at home and around the world. Dorothy Neal passed away in the spring of 2015.

We give thanks today for the most recent initiatives that the New Initiatives grant has enabled CBWOQ to fund.

Working under the umbrella of BWA-Women, Diane McBeth, a former Executive Director of CBWOQ, has been working to develop resources for spiritual

YPBC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (cont.)

formation and leadership development that can be used by groups around the world. This ministry, called Life Circles, includes materials that have been translated into seven different languages, along with videos in English and Portuguese.

Diane has traveled overseas to teach this curriculum and run online groups, traveling to Africa annually to conduct training in different regions and occasionally leading online groups. Last summer, she conducted a global launch, including several workshops and presentations at the BWA-Women's Summit in Brisbane. Our New Initiatives grant has helped fund this significant ministry. (Life Circles guides for peer spiritual direction are at bwawomen.org/life-circles.)

One other recent project, launched with the help of the Dorothy Neal Fund, is called Moms of Hope. This is a collaborative effort that includes several members of Church365, an online Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec (CBOQ) church plant pastored by Jordan and Sonya Tetley of the Elgin Association. This project focuses on supporting young mothers in Liberia who have children with special needs due to hydrocephalus, children to whom stigma is attached.

Through dedicated programmes, moms are cared for, supported and given spiritual care. Dr. Ballah, a neurosurgeon as well as one of the church's Liberian members, has performed the surgeries, and his vision is changing how children with disabilities are cared for. At 3-month follow-ups, it became clear that many of the babies were severely malnourished and their

mothers were struggling. Many of these are young, single moms facing stigma, poverty and pressure to abandon their children due to the challenge of raising a child with a medical complication.

In response, a local team in Liberia mobilizes to gather these women together, offering food, friendship, and encouragement through two in-person group meetings. Under Sonya's leadership, a long-term support initiative has been launched in partnership with Liberian women who are also raising children with special needs; this includes monthly home visits, support groups offering prayer, training, and practical help, as well as ongoing connection to resources that empower families to thrive. CBWOQ reports that this initiative has been incredibly impactful.

We are grateful for the legacy of Dorothy Neal and the life-changing ministries that the New Initiatives Fund provides, and we are also grateful for the ongoing support of our YPBC family that enables us to share out of our abundance. SHE does matter, and we are celebrating!



SAVE-THE-DATE

YP Women's "Day Apart"

Saturday February 20, 2027

We are pleased to welcome the **Rev. Dr. Emily Bisset** Minister, Calvin Presbyterian Church as our facilitator.

Submitted by Jonanne Fenton

2026 SUMMER PREACHING SERIES



Sunday, July 5, 11:00 a.m.

The Rev. Lynn Green

Vice Chair, Baptist World Alliance

General Secretary, Baptist Union of Great Britain

To learn more about our guests visit YPBCSummerPreaching.ca ►

CBOQ ASSEMBLY 2026



YPBC Delegation Gathers with the Others at CBOQ Assembly 2026

A delegation of nine from Yorkminster Park Baptist Church attended **Assembly 2026** of the Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec (CBOQ), held at Brock University from June 4-6, 2026. Representing YPBC were Rev. Dr. Ken Bellous, Rev. Paula Willis, and seven members of the congregation. The theme of this year's Assembly was **“And Then They Prayed.”**

CBOQ is a family of nearly 300 autonomous Baptist churches. They worship in many languages. CBOQ equips and cares for ministers and pastors, plants new churches and creates opportunities for young people to expand their love for God.

Morning until night, our delegates' days were packed full. There were imaginative workshops. Our Dr. Joyce Bellous conducted an engaging workshop on “Prayer and Discernment”. CBOQ's Annual General Meeting took place. The evening worship programs were a highlight, at times energetic and modern, at times quietly prayerful. Everyone was moved.

Spirited hallway and mealtime conversations took place. Events unfolded in the refreshing atmosphere of the Brock University site on the wooded brow of the Niagara Escarpment. For our YP delegates and, indeed, for all delegates, Assembly 26 brought forth a fine balance of discussion, spiritual renewal, worship and prayer.

Bruce Mullock

“How I Talk to God”

by Kelly Belmonte

Coffee in one hand
leaning in to share, listen:
How I talk to God.

“Momma, you're special.”
Three-year-old touches my cheek.
How God talks to me.

While driving I make lists:
done, do, hope, love, hate, try.
How I talk to God.

Above the highway
hawk: high, alone, free, focused.
How God talks to me.

Rash, impetuous
chatter, followed by silence:
How I talk to God.

First, second, third, fourth
chance to hear, then another:
How God talks to me.

Fetal position
under flannel sheets, weeping
How I talk to God.

Moonlight on pillow
tending to my open wounds
How God talks to me.

Pulling from my heap of words,
the ones that mean yes:
How I talk to God.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Patricia Mosdell

Patricia came to love the YPBC Iona Sunday evening services. She was moved by their peace, and balance of music and contemplation. She was drawn further to YP by its ethnic diversity and welcoming atmosphere. As a child, Patricia was christened in the Anglican church and later baptized in the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Then, as an adult, she served actively in volunteer roles in the United church. Patricia has spent 30 years studying Buddhism and Eastern philosophies. Today, she teaches meditation.



Rona Taylor

Rona grew up in the Christian tradition in Ottawa. She has been attending YPBC since 2020 and contributing to the Coffee Talk ministry. For some years, Rona operated a medical office on a street near Yorkminster with her late husband. She used to enjoy stepping outside, just to listen to the YPBC church bells ringing. She now recalls that during that time, she always knew that one day she would make YPBC her church.



Janielle Clarke

Janielle came to Canada from Jamaica as a young person of 14. There she had grown up in the Christian tradition under the firm influence of her grandmother, who rose daily at 4:00 am to study her Bible. Like many others have, Janielle discovered YPBC via our website, while searching for a church in her area. Today she describes herself as “captivated” by the music at YPBC. She holds a Master’s degree in Environmental Planning. Today she works with a consulting business involved in grants and R and D tax credits.



Wanda Sutherland

Wanda grew up in Bancroft, Ontario, where her family was active in the Brethren church. She was baptized there. She then trained and worked her entire career in nursing. Wanda loves the atmosphere here at YPBC. She has been active here since 2019, teaching grade 1 and 2 children in the YPBC Family Ministry and serving as Secretary with the YP Women.

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NEW MEMBERS (cont.)



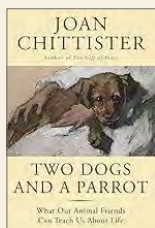
Jeff Shanta

Jeff was born in Montreal and raised in Toronto. His parents came to Canada from Malaysia in 1967. His mother was raised in a Muslim family and his father is Christian. As an adult, and having not been raised in a religious household, Jeff began exploring his faith academically. This search evolved into a "faith impulse", which led him to Christianity. He explored various denominations and attended various services, e.g. LDS, Catholic and Baptist. In 2022, Jeff came upon YPBC online. He was drawn to the sermons of Rev. Dr. Peter Holmes and moved to attend Yorkminster in person. He felt a sense of being at ease when he did. Jeff recalls his impression that the atmosphere was not rigid. Rather, it felt refreshing. He started reading the Bible and praying with his two sons regularly, when they were young. Jeff works at an investment bank, with a focus on the mining industry. He holds an MBA from Rotman.

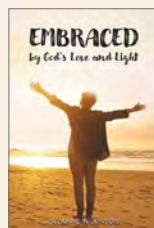
CHECK OUT THE GLADSTONE LIBRARY!

For those of you who still enjoy listening to Dr. Gladstone's sermons, a number of them have been digitized and arranged by subject. You can find them here:

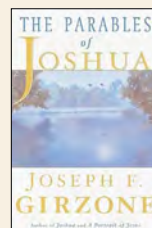
<https://acadiadiv.ca/acbas/gladstone-sermons/>



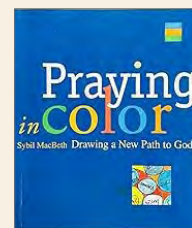
**Two dogs and a parrot:
what our animal friends
can teach us about life**
by Joan Chittister



**Embraced by God's
love and light**
by Suzanne Wilkinson



**The parables
of Joshua**
by Joseph F. Girzone



**Praying in color:
drawing a new path
to God**
by Sybil MacBeth

The Gladstone Library is open before and after Sunday service.

Thematic book displays for borrowing are in the Narthex every Sunday.

You can email us at library@yorkminsterpark.com.

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. All who believed were together and had all things in common; Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.”
- Acts 2:42,44,46-47.

In Acts we have been learning about the early church. In chapter 2 it says that the believers studied what the apostles taught, they shared their lives together, prayed together, shared everything they had, gave to anyone who needed something, they met every day, ate meals together and raised God. Their hearts were glad and sincere. Because of this they were respected by all. Everyone was amazed at what God was doing. Every day the Lord added to their group.

In Family Ministries we believe that children and youth will flourish spiritually when the home and the church work together. When we come alongside the family teaching the Good News of Jesus, young people discover the love of their heavenly Father in meaningful and lasting ways. They learn to love God, others, and themselves as God’s children. When we worship, serve, and grow together, we experience the beauty of God’s kingdom. Children and youth are empowered to carry what they have learned into their homes, schools, and communities.



God has given us His Holy Spirit. What a tremendous gift!

We have been empowered for faithful living and God's mission.

May we be constantly challenged to look at Scripture and see where the Holy Spirit wants us to be and follow where He guides us. Having been involved in Family Ministries for several years, I have observed the development and building of community. It encourages me to see how children and youth develop trust as they participate in their groups and engage with the dedicated leaders who lead them every week.

They come to understand that they are in a safe environment where they can listen to their peers and ask questions.

The Family Ministry band has been leading us in praise and worship every week. We have been blessed by their gifts and everyone is becoming familiar with both old and new songs. Lighthouse Kids spend time with their leaders in small groups, digging deeper to understand Scripture. They work on crafts and often have interesting discussions and questions.

Doxa Youth continue to have youth nights every few weeks. What a blessing it was to be invited to Ken and Joyce's condominium for a bowling and games night. A big Thank you to the Bellous' for providing a warm space for sharing life, snacks, conversation, and prayer.



While some things slow down over the summer, Family Ministries will continue gathering in praise, worship, and learning as usual. We look forward to spending time with the children, youth, and families each week!

GOD BLESS OUR GRADUATES!

High School Graduates

Carter Carpenter

Carter Carpenter has been part of the Yorkminster Park since birth – a community in which he was dedicated, baptized, and received membership within. It has been a joy to watch him grow. As a young child we remember how he would lead his class in prayer. While he was still a Lighthouse Kid himself, he helped to make Lighthouse teaching/craft videos. A few years later he volunteered as a class helper and then became a valued leader. Outside of Yorkminster Park, Carter has held various leadership roles including President of the York Mills Athletic Council and Founding Chair of the Stick it to Hunger Campaign. Carter is an exceptional athlete on and off the bench having served as Captain of the Varsity Volleyball Team, Captain of the Varsity Baseball Team, and Captain of the North York Blues 18U Elite Baseball Team. Carter is the Class of 2026 Valedictorian, 2026 Male Athlete of the Year, and the recipient of the 2026 Titan Spirit Award. In the fall, Carter will be attending Huron University at Western for Business Management and Organizational Studies (BMOS) with a desire to make an impact by leveraging his role in business to eradicate poverty with a specific interest in food scarcity.

Michael Reyes

Michael has been part of the Yorkminster Park family from birth. As a child he sang with the Choristers and then briefly joined the Minsters in 2019/20. He has been a big support in Family Ministries supporting Isaac during some youth nights and mainly in helping with our audio-visual needs every year. Michael will be going to Toronto Metropolitan University studying Financial Mathematics.

University Graduates

Roslyn Alfred

Roslyn graduated in Food and Beverage Management at Centennial College. We are very happy for Roslyn and wish her the best!

Cynthia Charette

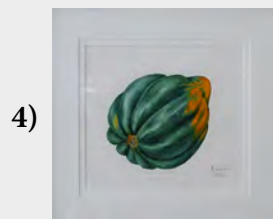
Cynthia studied Kinesiology at Queen's University. She served as a Student Athletic Therapist supporting the Men's Soccer Team and represented all Kinesiology students as PHEKSA President (student council). She is graduating with a BScH and this fall she will be continuing her studies, pursuing a Master's degree in Anatomical Science also at Queen's.

Congratulations

FROM **WALL** TO **WALL**

ONLY SEVEN ORIGINAL WORKS OF FINE ART LEFT!

The show has been extended to August 27, 2026



1) Pears \$350.00. 2) Papier mache \$220.00. 3) View of Upper Canada College \$100.00
4) Cucurbita \$250.00. 5) Scotland \$200.00. 6) Pink Horizons \$100.00. 7) Ontario Rapids \$500.00

ypgallery@yorkminsterpark.com

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LEMONADE ON THE LAWN

SUNDAYS STARTING - JULY 5TH

Immediately Following Worship

In the event of rain, we will meet in the Friendship Room.

ALL ARE WELCOME

YORKMINSTER PARK SUMMER 2026

CARILLON RECITALS

WEDNESDAY: JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST | 1:00 PM



June 24
Deborah Hennig



July 29
Jeremy Chesmen



August 12
Andrée-Anne
Doane



August 26
Naoko Tsujita

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Minister of Pastoral Care
and Discipleship

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Director of Mission and
Community Engagement

Mr. William Maddox
BMus, FTCL, FCAM
Organist & Director of Music

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Associate

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